

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
SERVING FEDERAL EMPLOYEES...AND THE NATION...SINCE 1917

Local _____



DEC 27 1985

Honorable Lee M. Thomas
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D.C. 20460


Dear Mr. Thomas,

At the recent hearing (12/18/85) on the proposed Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for fluoride in drinking water, Mr. Mike Cook, Director of the Office of Drinking Water, stated that EPA would accept additional comments on the health effects of fluoride. We would like a clarification of the intent of that request, since it appears to contradict the Federal Register Notice of Nov. 14 which stated:

"Comments on this notice relating to the RMCL or adverse health effects of fluoride are not appropriate."

There appears to be no other interpretation that can be made than that EPA is intending to reevaluate the basis for the Recommended Maximum Contaminant Level (RMCL). If this is so, it seems appropriate for EPA to alert the public in the Federal Register to this change and to schedule another hearing to allow the public ample opportunity to respond to this decision.

Sincerely,


Robert J. Carton, Ph.D.
President-Elect
NFFE Local 2050